

439 Chateau La Salle Dr.
San Jose, CA 95111

March 27, 2015

Mr. Murry Wilson
Department of Planning and Building
San Luis Obispo County
976 Osos Street, Room 300
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

Re: Phillips 66 Rail Spur Project and Oil Train Offloading Facility

Dear Mr. Wilson,

At the urging of San Jose City Councilmember Ash Kalra to yourself, Murry Wilson (Nov. 20, 2014), we wish to go on record as strongly against the proposed Phillips 66 Rail Project (rail spur) that would increase the number of railroad cars carrying crude oil to the Santa Maria refinery and build an offloading facility there.

As are cities and hundreds of others in the Bay Area and Northern California, we are opposed to such a proposal that would potentially destroy our livelihoods and even ourselves.

You must know that these areas are composed of cities that hold a large percentage of the population, as well as hi-tech industry and other vital industries. Is this therefore a sensible decision?

We disagree. We are aware of the energy industry's leanings. There is a concurrent responsibility. We cannot see this project at all. There is another place for trains to run.

Whatever we say, you may find objections. We are asking your Planning Commission, the County Board of Supervisors and the energy industry behind this proposal to place the facilities elsewhere in a locale with less or without people. Please have courage to do so.

These trains would cross much of California from originating points in Canada and North Dakota, and up to five oil trains per week would travel on Union Pacific rails that are within one-half-mile of Chateau La Salle Mobile Home Park—a distance that is considered to be within the “blast” zone should there be a derailment and fire on one of these trains. Our community consists of more than 400 homes, with more than 1,000 residents.

In addition, these railroad tracks serve as commuter rails on which many residents of the San Francisco Bay Area travel to work using Caltrain.

Are these oil trains capable of doing all their hauling at night, as we've heard? Our commuter rails run early in the morning. Collisions are conceivable. In addition, should workers be hurt or killed, a train accident would severely harm the area's economy.

The proposed oil trains would be more than a mile long, and the San Jose fire department is unable to respond to a train fire in any manner other than simply to let it burn itself out because they do not have the equipment or personnel to fight such fires..

We note that the San Jose City Council has unanimously opposed this project. Closer to your home, we note also that San Luis Obispo Mayor Jan Marx has sent a formal letter of opposition to this project. Other local governments in communities along the project's path are also opposed.

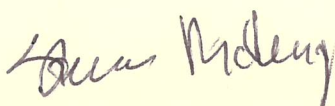
The project fails to adequately provide for the safety and health of those who live along the railroad tracks elsewhere in California, and creates significant and unnecessary risk for our large communities.

We two urge the San Luis Obispo Planning Commission and the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors to reject the Phillips 66 Rail Project.

Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,

Steve McHenry



Carolyn Straub



Chateau LaSalle MHP Residents

Mr Stephen McHenry
439 Chateau La Salle Dr
San Jose, CA 95111-3036

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